

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

CCO-00 INRE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 DPW-01 T-03 OMB-01 IO-12 AID-20

RSR-01 /140 W

----- 097832

O 200843 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3128

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

USDEL FRANCE IMMEDIATE

CIA

DOD

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2026

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: LAO INTERNAL TALKS: TWENTY THIRD SESSION -

LPF REFUSES TO ACCEPT RLG DRAFT PROTOCOLS

IN TUESDAY TALKS FORUM

REF: VIENTIANE 1837

1. FULL DELEGATIONS FROM RLG AND LPF ATTENDED TUESDAY
TALKS THIS MORNING, LED BY NGON SANANIKONE AND PHOUN
SIPRASEUTH, RESPECTIVELY. SESSION LASTED 40 MINUTES AND
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NO PREPARED STATEMENTS WERE MADE. RLG PRESENTED DRAFT MILITARY AND POLITICAL PROTOCOLS TO LPF DELEGATION BUT LATTER REJECTED THEM ON GROUNDS THAT THEY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN RESEARCH COMMISSION MEETINGS, NOT FULL DELEGATION FORUM.

2. AFTER MEETING, LPF DELEGATION SPOKEMAN SOTH PHETRASY SAID PHOUN SIPRASEUTH OPENED MEETING BY ANNOUNCING THAT, SINCE NO AGEND CD HAD BEEN FIXED, ANY ISSUES COULD BE DISCUSSED. PHOUN REMARKED THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE SO FAR IN NEGOTIATIONS. HE CHARGED RLG WITH REFUSING TO TALK IN DEPTH ABOUT MILITARY QUESTIONS AND DELAYING MEETINGS ON OTHER GROUNDS. PHOUN DEMANDED THAT RLG STOP " ALL POLITICAL AND MILITARY MANEUVERS WHICH CONSTITUTE VIOLATIONS," AND SINGLED OUT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN SOUVANNA AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT PHOUI SANANIKONE ON VIENTIANE AGREEMENT FOR CRITICISM.

3. REPORTERS QUESTIONED SOTH PHETRASY ON RETURN OF PHOUMI VONGVICHIT. SOTH SAID PHOUMI WOULD NOT RETURN TO VIENTIANE UNTIL PROGRESS WAS MADE IN RESEARCH COMMISSIONS. SOTH SAID PHOUN SIPRASEUTH HAD BEEN GIVEN CERTAIN PREPARATORY TASKS TO ACCOMPLISH AND PHOUMI WOULD NOT RETURN UNTIL THESE WERE DONE. SOTH ALSO STATED THAT LPF DID NOT YET HAVE THEIR DRAFT PROTOCOLS READY FOR DISCUSSION WITH RLG TODAY.

4. RLG SPOKESMAN NOUPHAT CHOUNRAMANY CONFIRMED MOST OF THE ABOVE. HE SAID NGON SANANIKONE HAD OFFERED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON BASIS OF RLG DRAFT PROTOCOLS IMMEDIATELY IN INTEREST OF MOVING FORWARD BUT LPF HAD DEMURRED ON GROUNDS THAT TWO SIDES HAD AGREED TO EXCHANGE DRAFTS BEFORE DISCUSSING THEM. NOUPHAT SAID MEETINGS OF BOTH POLITICAL AND MILITARY RESEARCH COMMISSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 21 AT 0930 HOURS.

5. COMMENT: FOR VIRUTALLY FIRST TIME IN VIENTIANE TALKS, RLG HAS GAINED THE INITIATIVE FROM THE COMMUNIST SIDE BY

HAVING ITS DRAFT PROTOCOLS READY FOR DISCUSSION AND THUS CLEARLY THROWING THE PUBLIC ONUS FOR DELAY ON THE LPF. WE HAVE OBTAINED PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF RLG DRAFT MILITARY PROTOCOL FROM PHENG PHONGSAVAN TODAY AND ARE NOW IN PROCESS
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OF TRANSLATING IT. WE ANTICIPATE THAT LPF WILL PRESENT ITS

DRAFT PROTOCOLS AT TOMORROW MORNING' S RESEARCH COMMISSION
MEETINGS.
GODLEY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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30 JUN 2005

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SECSTATE WASHDC INFO CIA
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WHITE HOUSE
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